

Subpart C—Procedures for Considering Applications

§ 17.21 Filing and service of documents.

An application for an award and any other pleading or document related to the application shall be filed and served on all parties to the proceeding in the same manner as other pleadings in the proceeding.

§ 17.22 Answer to application.

(a) Within 30 calendar days after service of the application, EPA counsel shall file an answer.

(b) If EPA counsel and the applicant believe that they can reach a settlement concerning the award, EPA counsel may file a statement of intent to negotiate. The filing of such a statement shall extend the time for filing an answer an additional 30 days.

(c) The answer shall explain in detail any objections to the award requested and identify the facts relied on to support the objection. If the answer is based on any alleged facts not already reflected in the record of the proceeding, EPA counsel shall include with the answer either a supporting affidavit or affidavits or request for further proceedings under § 17.25.

§ 17.23 Comments by other parties.

Any party to a proceeding other than the applicant and EPA counsel may file comments on an application within 30 calendar days after it is served or on an answer within 15 calendar days after it is served.

§ 17.24 Settlement.

A prevailing party and EPA counsel may agree on a proposed settlement of an award before final action on the application, either in connection with a settlement of the underlying proceeding or after the underlying proceeding has been concluded. If the party and EPA counsel agree on a proposed settlement of an award before an application has been filed, the application shall be filed with the proposed settlement.

§ 17.25 Extensions of time and further proceedings.

(a) The Presiding Officer may, on motion and for good cause shown, grant extensions of time, other than for filing an application for fees and expenses, after final disposition in the adversary adjudication.

(b) Ordinarily, the determination of an award will be made on the basis of the written record of the underlying proceeding and the filings required or permitted by the foregoing sections of these rules. However, the adjudicative officer may *sua sponte* or on motion of any party to the proceedings require or permit further filings or other action, such as an informal conference, oral argument, additional written submissions, or an evidentiary hearing. Such further action shall be allowed only when necessary for full and fair resolution of the issues arising from the application and shall take place as promptly as possible. A motion for further filings or other action shall specifically identify the information sought on the disputed issues and shall explain why the further filings or other action is necessary to resolve the issues.

(c) In the event that an evidentiary hearing is required or permitted by the adjudicative officer, such hearing and any related filings or other action required or permitted shall be conducted pursuant to the procedural rules governing the underlying adversary adjudication.

§ 17.26 Decision on application.

The Presiding Officer shall issue a recommended decision on the application which shall include proposed written findings and conclusions on such of the following as are relevant to the decision:

(a) The applicant's status as a prevailing party;

(b) The applicant's qualification as a "party" under 5 U.S.C. 504(b)(1)(B);

(c) Whether EPA's position as a party to the proceeding was substantially justified;

(d) Whether the special circumstances make an award unjust;

(e) Whether the applicant during the course of the proceedings engaged in conduct that unduly and unreasonably

Environmental Protection Agency

§ 19.4

protracted the final resolution of the matter in controversy; and

(f) The amounts, if any, awarded for fees and other expenses, explaining any difference between the amount requested and the amount awarded.

§ 17.27 Agency review.

The recommended decision of the Presiding Officer will be reviewed by EPA in accordance with EPA's procedures for the type of substantive proceeding involved.

§ 17.28 Judicial review.

Judicial review of final EPA decisions on awards may be sought as provided in 5 U.S.C. 504(c)(2).

§ 17.29 Payment of award.

An applicant seeking payment of an award shall submit a copy of the final decision granting the award to the Office of Financial Management for Processing. A statement that review of the underlying decision is not being sought in the United States courts or that the process for seeking review of the award has been completed must also be included.

PART 19—ADJUSTMENT OF CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES FOR INFLATION

Sec.

19.1 Applicability.

19.2 Effective date.

19.3 [Reserved]

19.4 Penalty Adjustment and Table.

AUTHORITY: Pub. L. 101-410, 104 Stat. 890, 28 U.S.C. 2461 note; Pub. L. 104-134, 110 Stat. 1321, 31 U.S.C. 3701 note.

SOURCE: 61 FR 69364, Dec. 31, 1996, unless otherwise noted.

§ 19.1 Applicability.

This part applies to each statutory provision under the laws administered by the Environmental Protection Agency concerning the maximum civil monetary penalty which may be assessed in either civil judicial or administrative proceedings.

§ 19.2 Effective date.

The increased penalty amounts set forth in this part apply to all violations under the applicable statutes and regulations which occur after January 30, 1997; except for violations subject to penalty under 42 U.S.C. 4852d(b)(5) and 42 U.S.C. 4910(a)(2), which are subject to the new penalty amounts for any violations after July 28, 1997.

[62 FR 35039, June 27, 1997]

§ 19.3 [Reserved]

§ 19.4 Penalty Adjustment and Table.

The adjusted statutory penalty provisions and their maximum applicable amounts are set out in Table 1. The last column in the table provides the newly effective maximum penalty amounts.

TABLE 1 OF SECTION 19.4—CIVIL MONETARY PENALTY INFLATION ADJUSTMENTS

U.S. Code citation	Civil monetary penalty description	New maximum penalty amount
7 U.S.C. 1361.(a)(1)	FEDERAL INSECTICIDE, FUNGICIDE, & RODENTICIDE ACT CIVIL PENALTY—GENERAL—COMMERCIAL APPLICATORS, ETC.	\$5,500
7 U.S.C. 1361.(a)(2)	FEDERAL INSECTICIDE, FUNGICIDE, & RODENTICIDE ACT CIVIL PENALTY—PRIVATE APPLICATORS—FIRST AND SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES OR VIOLATIONS.	\$550/\$1,000
15 U.S.C. 2615(a)	TOXIC SUBSTANCES CONTROL ACT CIVIL PENALTY	\$27,500
15 U.S.C. 2647(a)	ASBESTOS HAZARD EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT CIVIL PENALTY	\$5,500
31 U.S.C. 3802(a)(1)	PROGRAM FRAUD CIVIL REMEDIES ACT/VIOLATION INVOLVING FALSE CLAIM.	\$5,500
31 U.S.C. 3802(a)(2)	PROGRAM FRAUD CIVIL REMEDIES ACT/VIOLATION INVOLVING FALSE STATEMENT.	\$5,500
33 U.S.C. 1319(d)	CLEAN WATER ACT VIOLATION/CIVIL JUDICIAL PENALTY	\$27,500
33 U.S.C. 1319(g)(2)(A)	CLEAN WATER ACT VIOLATION/ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY PER VIOLATION AND MAXIMUM.	\$11,000/\$27,500
33 U.S.C. 1319(g)(2)(B)	CLEAN WATER ACT VIOLATION/ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTY PER VIOLATION AND MAXIMUM.	\$11,000/\$137,500
33 U.S.C. 1321(b)(6)(B)(I) ...	CLEAN WATER ACT VIOLATION/ADMIN. PENALTY OF SEC 311(b)(3)&(j) PER VIOLATION AND MAXIMUM.	\$11,000/\$27,500
33 U.S.C. 1321(b)(6)(B)(II) ...	CLEAN WATER ACT VIOLATION/ADMIN. PENALTY OF SEC 311(b)(3)&(j) PER VIOLATION AND MAXIMUM.	\$11,000/\$137,500